

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 210432

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 210432

FOLLOWING REPEAT DEPT 210432 ACTION ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC
POSTS AUG 24.

QUOTE: UNCLAS STATE 210432

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, XJ

SUBJECT: AUG. 24 PRESS BRIEFING ON SOUTHERN AFRICA
KINSHASA PASS ROGERS, SCHAUFELLE

1. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ROBERT FUNSETH, AT REGULAR PRESS
BRIEFING AUG. 24, RECEIVED NUMEROUS QUERIES ON SOUTHERN
AFRICAN ISSUES, SOME BASED ON POINTS RAISED BY CIVIL
RIGHTS LEADER JESSE JACKSON FOLLOWING HIS HOUR-LONG
MEETING MONDAY WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER.

2. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS OF BRIEFING (BEGIN TEXT)

2. Q: THIS MIGHT BE OPPORTUNE TIME TO ASK YOU TO GIVE
US SORT OF SUMMARY OF WHERE SECRETARY'S AFRICAN POLICY
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 210432

STANDS. IT HAS BEEN SOME MONTHS NOW SINCE HE WENT TO
AFRICA AND DECLARED CAMPAIGN OF SUPPORT FOR NEGOTIATION
AND MAJORITY RULE.

I WONDER IF YOU COULD TELL US HOW ADMINISTRATION IS

DOING ON TRYING TO REPEAL THE BYRD AMENDMENT, FOR IN-

STANCE, AND ON WHETHER SECRETARY ANTICIPATES SEEING MR. VORSTER AGAIN.

A: ADMINISTRATION REMAINS COMMITTED TO REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT. I DO NOT THINK ANY DECISION HAS YET BEEN MADE AS TO WHEN THEY WILL TAKE THAT ACTION ON HILL.

AS FOR GENERAL QUESTION ON PROGRESS OF OUR POLICY TOWARDS SOUTHERN AFRICA, AS YOU KNOW, UNDER SECRETARY ROGERS AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE LEFT LAST NIGHT FOR TRIP TO CONFER WITH LEADERS IN TANZANIA, ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE. THEIR TRIP IS PART OF THIS PROCESS OF CONSULTATION IN WHICH WE ARE ENGAGED IN SEEKING RAPID AND PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, WITH INITIAL FOCUS ON RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA.

NOW, YOUR OTHER QUESTION ON POSSIBLE MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER, YOU WILL RECALL THAT FOLLOWING SECRETARY'S INITIAL MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER IN GERMANY IN JUNE, WE INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD STAY IN TOUCH AND THEY WOULD POSSIBLY MEET AGAIN. AND SECOND MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY AND PRIME MINISTER IS UNDER CONSIDERATION. BUT A DECISION HAS NOT AS YET BEEN MADE, AND THIS DECISION WILL BE MADE IN LIGHT OF REPORTS WHICH WE RECEIVED FROM UNDER SECRETARY ROGERS AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE.

3. Q: COULD YOU BE LITTLE MORE SPECIFIC ON WHAT POSITIVE DECISION DEPENDS ON? WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR FROM THEM THAT YOU DON'T KNOW ALREADY?

A: AS WE HAVE INDICATED IN PAST, IN THIS PRESENT STAGE OF OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH VARIOUS PARTIES, WE ARE NOT ABLE TO GET INTO SUBSTANCE. WE HAVE BEEN TALKING -- UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 210432

WE HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH BRITISH AND WITH SOUTH AFRICANS AND WITH AFRICAN COUNTRIES, PRIMARILY TANZANIA, ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN IN CONTACT WITH LEADERS OF MOZAMBIQUE AND BOTSWANA. AND PROCESS IS CONTINUING, BUT I AM NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE DETAILS AT THIS POINT.

4. Q: DID SECRETARY TELL JESSE JACKSON YESTERDAY THAT HE WAS CONSIDERING ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA IF NO PROGRESS WAS MADE ON POLITICAL FRONT?

A: I THINK CONTEXT OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS IN WHICH WE HAVE BEEN FOCUSING HAS BEEN PRIMARILY RELATED TO RHODESIA. AND IT WAS FOR THAT REASON AND PART OF THAT POLICY

THAT WE STATED, ADMINISTRATION RESTATED, ITS INTENTION

TO SEEK REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT. AND THIS WAS OUTLINED, I BELIEVE, IN SECRETARY'S SPEECHES IN BOSTON AND LUSAKA.

AS FOR OTHER POINTS WHICH WERE DISCUSSED AT MEETING YESTERDAY WITH REVEREND JACKSON, I THINK I WOULD HAVE TO LIMIT MYSELF TO SAYING THAT SECRETARY AND REV. JACKSON MET PRIVATELY AND HAD USEFUL AND WIDERANGING DISCUSSION. THEY COVERED MOST OF PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

5. Q: IS REV. JACKSON WRONG THEN WHEN HE SAYS THAT SECRETARY CONTEMPLATES ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA?

A: I AM NOT GOING TO COMMENT ON REV. JACKSON'S ACCOUNT OF CONVERSATION. I HAVE GIVEN AS MUCH AS WE ARE PREPARED TO SAY ABOUT MEETING.

6. Q: BOB, ISN'T IT UNLIKELY IN CONTEXT OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS VERY AVIDLY GOING TO PURSUE THE REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT BETWEEN NOW AND NOVEMBER?

A: POLICY DECISION HAS BEEN MADE TO MOVE FOR REPEAL -- OR TO REAFFIRM THAT WE ARE MOVING FOR REPEAL OF BYRD UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 210432

AMENDMENT. BUT JUST WHEN TACTICAL DECISION WILL BE MADE AS TO WHEN TO MOVE, I AM JUST NOT IN POSITION TO SPECULATE. I DO NOT KNOW.

7. Q: I MEAN, IT IS UNLIKELY, IS IT NOT, THAT THAT WOULD HAPPEN BETWEEN NOW AND NOVEMBER?

A: NOT NECESSARILY.

8. Q: I MEAN -- EXCUSE ME, BARRY, IF I COULD JUST PURSUE THIS -- HAVEN'T SOME OF BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS IN FACT BEEN APPRISED OF UNLIKELIHOOD OF SUCH MOVE BETWEEN NOW AND NOVEMBER.

A: I DO NOT KNOW THAT.

9. Q: COULD YOU CHECK ON THAT?

A: I WILL CHECK ON IT.

10: Q: WHAT IS U.S. POSITION ON ACTION TAKEN BY SOUTH AFRICA ON NAMIBIA? SECRETARY HAS WARNED SEVERAL TIMES THAT TIME IS RUNNING OUT ON NAMIBIA. DEADLINE IS AUGUST 31ST. WHAT IS CURRENT U.S. VIEW OF PROPOSALS MADE ON NAMIBIA?

A: WE WELCOME ANY MOVE WHICH WOULD BRING NAMIBIA CLOSER TO INDEPENDENCE. AND WHILE THIS MOST RECENT STEP ANNOUNCED IN WINDHOEK IS STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION, IT DOESN'T GO FAR ENOUGH. WE HAVE REAFFIRMED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT DEFINITE TIMETABLE ACCEPTABLE TO THE WORLD COMMUNITY, BE SET FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE. SO WE WILL JUST HAVE TO AWAIT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ALONG THIS LINE. BUT THIS STEP WHICH WAS TAKEN, ALTHOUGH IN RIGHT DIRECTION, JUST DOESN'T GO FAR ENOUGH.

11. Q: WILL THAT BE POSITION U.S. WILL TAKE THEN WHEN DEADLINE EXPIRES AT U.N.?

A: OUR POSITION REMAINS UNCHANGED IN THAT WE HAVE UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 210432

CALLED FOR ALL OF PEOPLE AND GROUPS OF NAMIBIA TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS FREELY, I BELIEVE, UNDER U.N. SUPERVISION ON POLITICAL FUTURE AND CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF COUNTRY. AND WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO THAT POLICY. THAT IS BASIS OF OUR POLICY.

NOW, WHAT SITUATION WILL BE WHEN U.N. TAKES UP THIS ISSUE AGAIN, WE WOULD HAVE TO REVIEW WHAT POSITION WE WILL TAKE IN LIGHT OF THAT SITUATION, BUT CONSISTENT WITH THIS OVERALL POLICY.

12. Q: COULD YOU CLARIFY WHETHER U.S. POSITION IS AS STATED IN THE U.N. RESOLUTION THAT THERE HAVE TO BE ELECTIONS UNDER U.N. SUPERVISION?

A: YES. WE SUPPORTED THAT RESOLUTION.

13. Q: IS THAT STILL U.S. POSITION?

A: YES.

14. BOB, WHEN YOU SPEAK OF "WORLD COMMUNITY," ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNITED NATIONS, OR SECURITY COUNCIL, OR WHAT?

A: I AM USING IT IN ITS BROADEST TERMS, JOE.

15. Q: WELL, WHAT IS BROADEST TERM?

A: THERE ARE VARIOUS DEFINITIONS OF "WORLD COMMUNITY." COMMUNITY OF NATIONS IN WORLD.

16. Q: WHAT IS STATE DEPARTMENT'S DEFINITION OF "WORLD

COMMUNITY?"

A: I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY PRECISE DEFINITION OTHER THAN ONE I HAVE JUST STATED.

17. Q: YOU DIDN'T STATE ANY. I MEAN, YOU HAVE TALKED ABOUT WORLD COMMUNITY , BUT YOU DIDN'T DEFINE IT.
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 210432

A: LET ME SEE IF WE HAVE PRECISE DEFINITION FOR YOU.

18. Q: HAVE RECENT UPRISINGS IN SOUTH AFRICA UPSET U.S. POLICY EXPECTATIONS AS TO WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN IN SOUTHERN AFRICA? WHAT SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT BE IN POSITION TO DO?

A: I AM NOT IN POSITION TO PROVIDE JUDGMENT ON THAT. WE CERTAINLY REGRET VIOLENCE AND LOSS OF LIFE AND SUFFERING THAT HAS OCCURRED AND IS OCCURRING IN SOUTH AFRICA. AND I THINK THESE EVENTS ONLY UNDERSCORE URGENCY OF SEEKING SOLUTION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

19. Q: JESSE JACKSON SAID YESTERDAY THAT ADMINISTRATION IS EXAMINING POSSIBILITY OF GRANTING REFUGEE STATUS FOR OPPONENTS OF APARTHEID SEEKING ASYLUM IN THIS COUNTRY. IS THAT CORRECT?

A: I WILL HAVE TO LOOK INTO THAT. I DO NOT KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT.

20. Q: IS IT STILL U.S. POSITION THAT SWAPO SHOULD BE PARTY TO ANY NEGOTIATIONS DEALING WITH FUTURE OF NAMIBIA?

A: OUR POSITION REMAINS UNCHANGED. I THINK OUR POSITION GENERALLY HAS BEEN THAT ALL POLITICAL GROUPS SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN ULTIMATE SOLUTION.

21. Q: BOB, IF SECRETARY SHOULD SEE MR. VORSTER DO YOU KNOW IF THAT WOULD BE IN AFRICA, OR IN EUROPE?

A: I DO NOT THINK THAT CONSIDERATION HAS REACHED THE POINT AS TO LOCALE.

22.Q:WHICH DATES ARE CONSIDERED FOR THIS MEETING?

A: I DON'T KNOW. I WOULD RECALL WHAT I JUST SAID, THAT NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE -- AND THE DECISION WILL BE MADE IN LIGHT OF REPORTS FROM MR. ROGERS AND MR. SCHAUFLE.
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 210432

23. Q: BUT JACKSON SAID IT WAS "IMMINENT." SECRETARY TOLD HIM MEETING WAS IMMINENT. IS THAT CORRECT?

A: MY RESPONSE REMAINS AS I STATED EARLIER.

24. Q: BOB, I AM TRYING TO GET AN IDEA OF CONNECTION BETWEEN SCHAUFLE AND ROGERS TRIP TO POSSIBLY SETTING UP MEETING WITH VORSTER. IS IT BASED ON SUBSTANCE OF WHAT THEY REPORT BACK? OR IS IT JUST NICETY OF HAVING THEM TELL LEADERS OF THOSE COUNTRIES BEFORE THEY READ ABOUT IT IN NEWSPAPERS?

A: FORMER. BASED ON SUBSTANCE.

25. Q: YOU ARE REALLY LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FROM THEM BEFORE YOU GO AHEAD AND PREPARE VORSTER MEETING?

A: RIGHT. TO SEE IF THERE HAS BEEN SUFFICIENT PROGRESS TO WARRANT SECOND MEETING -- WHICH IS, I THINK WHAT WE HAVE SAID IN PAST ABOUT CONSIDERATION OF SUCH MEETING.

26. Q: I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW YOU MEASURE PROGRESS RELATING TO RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA BY TALKING TO LEADERS IN TANZANIA, ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE. COULD YOU EXPLAIN THAT?

A: I AM NOT QUITE SURE I UNDERSTAND YOUR QUESTION.

Q: WELL YOU SAID THAT SECRETARY IS NOT TALKING ABOUT GREAT UPHEAVALS TAKING PLACE IN ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE, HE IS TALKING ABOUT QUICK TURNOVER -- MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.

THAT IS THE CORE OF PROBLEM, ISN'T IT?

A: YES.

Q: HOW DOES TALKING TO LEADERS OF TANZANIA, ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE HELP SECRETARY MAKE UP HIS MIND ABOUT UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 210432

WHETHER SEEING VORSTER MAKES SENSE EARLY IN SEPTEMBER?

A: SINCE HIS TRIP TO AFRICA, WHEN HE MADE HIS LUSAKA SPEECH, WE RECOGNIZED THAT STATES THAT ARE ON BORDERS OF RHODESIA HAVE AN INTEREST IN PEACEFUL SOLUTION. VARIOUS RHODESIAN GROUPS HAVE TIES IN THESE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND SO FOR THIS REASON WE HAVE BEEN IN CONSULTATION IN BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES -- PARTICULARLY ONES WE VISITED. OBVIOUSLY, THEY HAVE

CONTACTS WITH BLACK COMMUNITY AND BLACK NATIONALIST GROUPS IN RHODESIA. AND SOUTH AFRICANS -- REASON WE ARE CONSULTING WITH SOUTH AFRICANS,-- IS BECAUSE OF THEIR ASSOCIATION AND CONTACTS WITH WHITE RHODESIANS.

27. Q: SO THAT IS IT FAIR TO SAY THAT YOU ARE NOW ZEROING IN ON DECISION FOR KISSINGER-VORSTER MEETING?

BECAUSE IT SEEMS TO ME THAT FOR LAST TWO MONTHS YOU HAVE BEEN SAYING THAT MEETING WAS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

A: YES.

28. Q: SO WHAT IS NEW?

A: WHAT IS NEW IS THAT WE ARE GOING TO MAKE DECISION BASED ON REPORTS WE GET FROM MR. ROGERS AND MR. SCHAUFLE DURING THEIR CURRENT TRIP TO AFRICA.

29. Q: YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE FINAL DECISION ON MEETING?

A: ON WHETHER THERE WILL BE SECOND MEETING AT THIS TIME? YES.

30.Q:YOU SAID THAT DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING SANCTIONS PRIMARILY CONCERNED RHODESIA.

A: YES.

31. Q: WAS THERE NOT DISCUSSION OF SANCTIONS CONCERNING NAMIBIA?
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 210432

NING NAMIBIA? BECAUSE IS THAT NOT NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS ON U.N. AGENDA IF THE DEADLINE IS NOT MET BY AUGUST 31ST ON NAMIBIA?

A: OBVIOUSLY IN U.N. CONSIDERATION OF NAMIBIA, ONE OF OPTIONS FOR UN HAS ALWAYS BEEN SANCTIONS. BUT WHETHER THIS WAS SPECIFICALLY DISCUSSED AT MEETING YESTERDAY WITH REV. JACKSON, FRANKLY I DO NOT KNOW.

AND IN ANY CASE, AS I INDICATED, I AM NOT ABLE

TO GO BEYOND RATHER GENERAL DESCRIPTION THAT I GAVE AT BEGINNING OF MEETING.

32. Q: CAN I JUST GO BACK TO SOMETHING YOU SAID MOMENT AGO? IF MY NOTE IS CORRECT, YOU SAID THAT WE ARE GOING TO MAKE DECISION BASED ON REPORTS OF MR. ROGERS AND MR. SCHAUFLE DURING THEIR CURRENT TRIP TO AFRICA.

A. RIGHT.

Q: DOES THAT MEAN DECISION IS GOING TO BE MADE THIS WEEK?

A: I DO NOT KNOW WHEN. YOU KNOW THEY ARE IN AFRICA, BUT I CANNOT TELL YOU WHEN DECISION IS GOING TO BE MADE. BUT IT WILL BE BASED ON THE REPORTS OF THEIR MEETING.

33. Q: IS UNITED STATES CONCERNED ABOUT RE-EXPORT OF UNITED STATES MILITARY TECHNOLOGY FROM ISRAEL TO SOUTH AFRICA?

A: I DO NOT KNOW THAT YOUR STATEMENT IS FACTUALLY CORRECT.

34. Q: IS THE UNITED STATES GIVING ANY MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ISRAELIS?

A: OF COURSE WE ARE.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 10 STATE 210432

35. Q: IS DEPARTMENT AWARE THAT ISRAELIS ARE GIVING MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICANS?

A: QUESTION REALLY IS: THERE ARE CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS APPLIED TO TRANSFER OF TO OUR SALE OF MILITARY GOODS OR TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY TO ANY COUNTRY, INCLUDING ISRAEL; AND THESE ARE FOLLOWED. AND TO MY KNOWLEDGE, WE HAVE NO INDICATION THAT ISRAEL IS VIOLATING ANY OF TERMS UNDER WHICH THEY HAVE ACCEPTED EITHER EQUIPMENT OR TECHNOLOGY. KISSINGER

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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